

TWO MEMBERS OF THE RUBIACEAE
NEW TO OHIO^{1, 2}

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Since the publication of Edward J. P. Hauser's "Rubiaceae of Ohio" (1964) I have found two taxa not mentioned there — a *Galium* and a *Houstonia*.

Galium pedemontanum All. is a small inconspicuous European species with tiny yellow flowers and leaves in four's. The three more recent manuals — Fernald (1950), Gleason (1952), and Gleason and Cronquist (1963) — cite it as occurring in West Virginia and Kentucky. My Ohio specimen, from a grassy area in Anderson Township, Hamilton County, adds another state to the known range. I have also found it in Carter Caves State Park in Kentucky.

REPRESENTATIVE SPECIMENS: **Kentucky:** CARTER CO., Carter Caves State Park, dry slope (recently disturbed) above lake, May 21, 1964, *Braun* 4957 (US); same, May 20, 1964, s.n. (US). **Ohio:** HAMILTON CO., Newtown Road, Anderson Township, in grass, June 1, 1964, *Braun*, s.n. (US). (Additional vouchers are deposited at GH and NY.)

Although *Houstonia setiscaphia* L. G. Carr is reduced to synonymy with *H. canadensis* Willd. (Terrell, 1959), it seems desirable to note the occurrence of this plant in Ohio. Until now, it has been known only from Lee County, Virginia, the type locality, where it grows in "calcareous barrens and glades," and from adjacent Scott County (Natural Tunnel), where it was found clinging in crevices of limestone. Lee County occupies the extreme western angle of Virginia, and is in the Ridge and Valley Province of physiographers, near the eastern boundary of the Appalachian Plateau Province; the lower lands are limestone flats where rock may be exposed on the surface.

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³Deceased March 5, 1971.

Our Ohio specimens, from Adams County, occur in a comparable situation — in the narrow band of Knobs along the western border of the Appalachian Plateau, the part referred to as Unglaciated Allegheny Plateau. The plant community in which *H. setiscaphia* occurs can be called cedar barrens, or open rocky xeric prairie. The plants are usually in the more open spots, rarely in crevices of very low cliffs. The exposed rocks are Peebles dolomite (Silurian).

REPRESENTATIVE SPECIMENS: Ohio: ADAMS CO., Lynx Prairie Preserve, open bare spots in prairie where dolomite at surface, May 20, 1967, *Braun*, s.n. (US); same, June 27, 1966, *Braun*, s.n. (US); "Lynx", Sept. 4, 1931, *Braun*, s.n. (US); Beaver Pond, open shale slopes, no date, *Braun*, s.n. (US); Peach Mt., oak woods, shale slope, May 20, 1924, *Braun*, s.n. (US).

Although similar to typical *Houstonia canadensis*, which also occurs here, *H. setiscaphia* is readily spotted in the field, both at initiation of flowering and later, because of its different aspect. Closer inspection reveals characters by which it differs: conspicuously scabrous or hispid angles of the stem, denser inflorescence, hispid calyx, smaller and more crowded flowers, and oblanceolate leaves.

Terrell noted the variability of *Houstonia canadensis* and to a lesser extent, of *H. setiscaphia*, and the overlapping of characters between them. Because the two taxa occur in the same community in Adams County, ecotypical variation may be ruled out.

A specimen from the Lynx Prairie Preserve (a Natural Landmark), sent to the Gray Herbarium, Harvard University, was compared with the type by Reed C. Rollins who states "I have compared your material with the type . . . and the specimens match very well."

The whole *Houstonia purpurea* species-complex, to which *H. canadensis* and *H. setiscaphia* belong, is made up of closely related and variable (sometimes intergrading) species. *Houstonia setiscaphia* may (perhaps correctly) be considered as only a variant of *H. canadensis*; however, its occurrence in Ohio should be noted in order that the geographic occurrence of these taxa may be studied further.

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